

Savoonga St. Lawrence Is. April 3, 1942

Dr. Everett B. King

156 Fifth Ave.

New York , N.Y.

Dear Dr. King:-

Here is a something you should know what we all Savoonga people want. At the church time we talk about Miss Anna Martin to askyou we all want her for another year at Savoonga.

She is helping lot to the people here who are want to know more about Chirst.

We hope to hear from you about her if you say/~~here~~ to stay or not.

From your truly in Jesus Chirst

Elder Albert Kulowiyi

Gambell, St. Lawrence Is. Aaa.

April 8, 1942,

Mr. Everett B. King,
Board Nat'l. Mission,
155 E - 5th Avenue,
New York City,
N. Y.

Dear Sir, —

The officers of the church of Gambell wished to show our appreciation for Miss Ann Bannan and grateful of her great help of our church's organization.

So if it is possible for you to have her over again, we will much appreciate, if she is in good health? But it seems to us that she is improving much.

The reason we wished to have her again, because of great benefit she had done in the spiritual work, and to have same scripture doctrine continually, also for starting C. E. work and of her help in several other ways.

So we will be looking forward for her return at any time according our request. Also children has acquaintance with her. So also one missionary is hard, for going back and forth to both villages are inconvenient, which has some distances between the two villages.

The church has been repaired by her aid and has win many soul to our Master Jesus. If she had not been here, the church building had been torn because of old.
May God bless you all,

As recorded by Paul Silook! (Scribe)
your Brothers in Jesus,
Officers of church.

April 25, 1942

Mr. Alfred Tumbloo,
Savoonga,
Alaska

Dear Mr. Tumbloo:

I did appreciate your letter telling me of the helpful visit of our Missionary, Rev. B. J. Bingle. I am sure you found him helpful in your services.

I was also delighted to read what you had to say about Miss Martin. I am sure that she is filling a real need in her services there.

It was a real disappointment to me last September when the weather man made it impossible for me to visit you people. I had planned to fly from Nome, but the weather vanes were so unfavorable that the trip was canceled. Some time I hope my dream will be realized and I can visit with you folks there in Savoonga.

Cordially yours,

EBK-M

May 28, 1942

AIRMAIL

Mr. Paul Silook, Secretary
Gambell, Alaska

Dear Mr. Silook:

Thank you for sending me your letter of April 8th in which you set forth the love and admiration that the church in Gambell has for our fine missionary, Miss Bannan. You know her better than I do and you can appreciate her fine work better than I do but I would like for you to know also that the Board is very proud of Miss Bannan and the Board is mindful of the fine work that she is doing there on the island. It is an inspiration and encouragement to receive letters like the one you sent to us, expressing your attitude on the field.

May the Lord continue to add His blessings to you people.

Cordially yours

EHK:McE

August 19, 1942

AIRMAIL

Elder Albert Kulowiyi
Savoonga, Alaska

Dear Elder Kulowiyi:

Thank you for your good letter of April 3rd in which you present the request of the people on the Island to have Miss Anna Martin stay with you at Savoonga for another year. It was in our plans to have this request granted but the Government, of course, changed all of our plans. I hope that it will not be very long before we are able to continue with the fine work that has been going on on the Island. You may be sure that we are maintaining your interest at heart and shall do all within our power to keep the Gospel of Christ presented to you. In the meantime, May I ask that your people on the Island remain true and steadfast and my prayer is that God will keep you.

Cordially yours,

EBK:McE

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Anchorage, Alaska

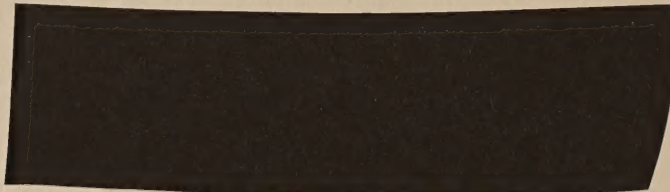
October 12

1942.

Rev. Everett B. King, D.D.
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

Wired Fred today as to your suggestion
about St. Lawrence Island.



Your letter of the 27th of September
reached here this morning.

Will wire as soon as I hear from Fred,
unless I hear from you in the meantime.

Faithfully yours,

Wire - \$2.50

C O P Y

C O P Y

Gambell, St. Lawrence Island, Alaska

November 29, 1942

Dear friend Miss Ann Bannan:

Thanks we have received your letter this summer.

Last Thursday we have big feast at Mission house. We have good Thanksgiving dinner.

And Christmas is coming soon. I wish you here too. Oh I was think about you, because I know you are very good to everybody in Gambell people.

Can't you come here again? This summer more white people came here new one. But no missionary. Mrs. Dougherty is very good to me I love her. Sometimes Neal helps me when I work in their kitchen.

How are you getting along. We are praying you often. I hope you answer me.

Your friend,

(signed) Harriet Walla

August 5, 1943

AIR MAIL

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Iworrigan
Gambell
St. Lawrence Island,
Alaska

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Iworrigan:

Through our beloved friend, Miss Ann Bannan, your gift of \$40, which has been applied to the cause of the National Missions and credited to the Gambell Church, has been received. However, definite instruction has been given to the treasurer's office that this money represented private tithe offering from you two fine people. I cannot tell you how it thrilled my heart and inspired me to receive this tithe money from you. Words fail to express my gratitude, but I am praying that the Lord will richly bless you, not only because of this gift, but because of the faithful Christian life that you are striving to live.

I know that you must miss Miss Bannan. She is such a grand soul that her absence must be keenly felt. However, I am hoping that Rev. Percy Ipalook will be able to take up her leadership and to carry on. Mr. Ipalook is a fine consecrated man and I am sure that you will grow very fond of him.

Enclosed I am sending you our recent publication about St. Lawrence Island; it is a most encouraging story.

If you have the time, I shall appreciate your writing to me directly. Please know that I constantly remember you in my prayers.

Cordially yours,

EEK:is
Enc.

Gambell Church Gambell, St. Lawrence Is. Alaska.
Jan. 30, 1944.

FEB 7 1945

Mr. J. Earl Jackman,
B. of Nat'l. Mission of Pres. Ch.
156 fifth Avenue, New York,
New York.

My dear Sir, —

Just few lines to say, telling you
the condition of our church building.

The Trustees has examined it and says
it should be repaired if material is available,
the floor is in bad condition and the Trustees
says, the west side should be knocked
down and repair it with new material.

It looks it will blown down by a high
wind. The roof is also need repairing and
few seats are needed.

This building was built before I was born
and only part I know is the west end which
was built late.

We are anxious to have you to pay us
a visit and see the building, perhaps you can
see what should be done.

Since Mrs + Mrs. Parker came we are able
to get more out of the lesson. We thank

West end of church repaired

God for sending them up here, to tell us more about the Word of God, which is the Book of books.

iii/ Perhaps you want to know the names of the Elders. ^{They are} James Aningayow, Jimmie Atigah, Samuel Irigoo, and Moses Soonogurook who tried their best to lead the members.

Since Parkers came there include three more families, ^{leaving only} ~~but there are~~ three families. Pray for them often so they may accept Christ as their Saviour. Pray for all of us so that we may stand steadfast and be a faithful witness for the Lord.

So if the Lord's will, we will be hoping for the repair should be done.

May God bless you and the rest of our brothers and sisters in Jesus.

Yours in Christ,

Paul Silook (Clerk)

September 25, 1944

VIA AIRMAIL

Mr. Paul Silcock
Cambell
St. Lawrence Id., Alaska

My dear Mr. Silcock:

Miss Samson has written to me concerning your statement that since the absence of your minister you have had to carry on alone in Cambell. We are sorry that you have had this period without the benefit of your minister but we are now writing to offer you some hope for the future.

We have recently appointed The Rev. Elmer E. Parker and his wife as new missionaries to Cambell. They will leave Seattle by boat October 1st and go to Anchorage where we hope they may get plane transportation to Nome; from Nome they may be able to get a ride on a government boat over or they may have to make arrangements to fly over. We hope they may get there without too many delays. Mr. and Mrs. Parker are consecrated people and ought to render a fine service to your congregation. We trust that your people will welcome them cordially and do everything to cooperate with them in the progress of your Church.

We have transferred The Rev. Mr. Ipalook to Wales to relieve Miss Stauffer. We have asked him to leave the food which was sent up for them at Cambell so the Parker's will have a supply of food and fuel. Mr. Ipalook ordered some personal items of clothing for his family which will have to be forwarded later. In sending him directions to go to Wales, we thought perhaps he might want to take the opportunity of going over to Cambell to get the things which were left there that belonged to his family. He may come before October 1st or not until he is settled at Wales.

We shall ask your elders to see that there is enough heat in the house to keep everything in good order until the Parker's arrive. We will also suggest that you get some of your people to do whatever housecleaning is necessary to make the house as attractive as possible for the Parker's. We want them to like your people and your Church so that anything which you can do to make them feel welcome will be appreciated.

Page 12

Mr. Paul Silcock

September 25, 1944

We trust the Lord will bless all of you in this new relationship together. We shall want The Parker's to lead your people to a better understanding of Christ and a greater feeling of responsibility for their own Church. It is understood that The Parker's are to go to Savoonga at least quarterly to assist Miss Martin in her work. Please express our great interest in your people and our desire for you to have a great spiritual experience together.

Cordially yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska

JEF:PK

Dictated but not signed
by Mr. Jackman

Silo
Gambell
Church

February 26, 1945

VIA AIRMAIL

Mr. Paul Silook
Gambell
St. Lawrence Island, Alaska

My dear Mr. Silook:

Thank you for your recent letter which gives a report on the progress and enthusiasm of your Church. We appreciate having the information about your Elders and the statement concerning the conditions of the church building.

We hope that the order of lumber which Mr. Parker sent us will be sufficient to make repairs on the church building. Unless we get a full statement of all of these needs before the time purchases are made for summer shipping on the boat we will not be able to help you until the following year.

We have a limited amount of money available for repairs on buildings but hope to be able to do something for the Gambell Church. We are wondering too if your people would join with us in putting the Church in good repairs to continue your services there.

We are endeavoring to get each one of our Churches to make a statement of their own finances and to ask their people to make regular contributions toward the expenses of their own work. In this way they would take as large a responsibility as they are able for the support of their own work and minister and the repairs on their building. For this purpose we have sent to you for the congregation an Application for Aid from the Board of National Missions for your Church. This may be new to you but we hope in the development of a stronger Church in Gambell that you will be able to do something with it. Mr. Parker can help you and your action on it will certainly make you a stronger Church.

We are glad to know that you like The Parker's. We felt that you would when we asked them to go up to serve with you. It is my hope sometime in late April or early May to visit you and get acquainted. We want to assure you of our great interest and prayers in the progress of your Church and people.

Very truly yours,
Cordially yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska
JEJ:PK

Gambell, St. Lawrence Is.

Feb. 27, 1945.

Dear Mr. Jackman

see March
14/45 rec. mail
for this 20.-a/c

Suspense.
(Hpw)

#20.-

being for
World Day of
Prayer

MAR 7 1945

transmitted it to
United Council of
Church Women
Room 111
156 Fifth Ave
New York 17

Enclosed herewith you will find

\$20.00 which is the offering of the World Day of Prayer. Hope this is some benefit.

The church members are gladly to offer as much as the Lord permits them to do.

Thank God for his great help to us in need. We put our trust on him for the words he had said in the book of books. He will supply every need according to his riches in glory.

One of my dear daughter had gone up to glory on the 3rd day of February. So Pray for us often and we are praying for you and the country.

Hope to hear from you soon. May God bless you.

Yours in Christ,
Paul Silcock.

Gambell, St. Lawrence Is., Alaska

March 2, 1945.

Rev. Mr. J. Earl Jackson,
Unit of work in Alaska,
156 fifth Ave. N. Y. New York.

Dear Sir, —

A few lines to say what our plans are
about the \$500.00 for repair work. We decide to
reserve some of it, because of need new
church in the future.

The church is very small, as there are not
much room for the preacher and the
interpreter and for the pulpit.

Especially Savoonga need a smaller
one and quarter for the missionary.

Ours are getting old, and the nail has been
rusted badly and part of the building are
getting loose.

We'll be looking forward for new things
if the Lord permits.

May God bless you all.

Yours in Christ,

Paul Silook (Clerk)

Paul just had this
over & asked if I would
read it with my letter.

John

March 19, 1945

Mr. Paul Silook
Gambell
St. Lawrence Id., Alaska

My dear Mr. Silook:

Thank you for your letter of February twenty-seventh in which you enclosed a gift from your people for the World Day of Prayer. This gift is real evidence that prayer means much to you as you join your contribution with your prayers to bring in the Kingdom of Christ on earth.

We regret very much to hear of the loss of your daughter on the 3rd of February but we feel certain that coming from your family with her Christian faith she has been called to be with Christ in Heaven and is rejoicing over her release from a physical body to be with the Lord. Meanwhile, we pray that God may send His Spirit to you with the comfort that only He can give in the loss of her in your home. We do remember the people at Gambell in our prayers and know that you are remembering us because prayer has meant so much in the life and development of your Church.

Cordially yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska

VIA AIRMAIL

Original of Lawrence Isd. folder

Board of National Missions
of the Presbyterian Church in the
United States of America

156 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, N.Y.

July 12, 1945

Mr. George A. Dale
Alaska Department
U.S. Department of Interior
Office of Indian Affairs
Chicago 54, Illinois

My dear Mr. Dale:

C Mrs. Bingle has forwarded to me your letter of June twelfth in regard to the situation on St. Lawrence Island. Knowing that you were leaving Alaska June 29th to come to the Chicago office, we are writing you there hoping that you may receive this letter.

It has not been my privilege to visit St. Lawrence Island yet. Last April I waited **three** days in Nome hoping to get over but all transportation failed and I was not able to get there. I do not speak, therefore, from **actual** experience on the ground but only from reports which have come to us.

We have in our office the reports from three different missionaries who have served on St. Lawrence Island at different periods during the time The Daugherty's have been there. Each one of these missionaries, independent of the others, have reported that The Daugherty's themselves have been a disturbing influence so far as the ministry of the Church is concerned among the Eskimos. There formerly there was a united and cooperative spirit among the people of the village there is now a divided spirit and considerable friction instead of harmony and cooperation. The Daugherty's came in with their Seventh Day Adventist teaching and sought to gather the people to follow their teaching rather than the teaching of the Presbyterian Church which had been followed by the whole village. Other interferences with our work have been reported.

P
Y
During a recent visit to the Arctic Coast, I was informed that The Daugherty's have had this disturbing influence in the life of every community in which they have served in Alaska. We have nothing against them personally but do feel it would be helpful for the entire village if they could be replaced by teachers who would co-

Page #2
Mr. George A. Dale

July 12, 1945

operate with the Mission instead of trying to take people away from the Church which has ministered to them over a long period of years.

Again may I say this statement is made on the basis of reports which have come, but these reports have been received from people who have lived in the midst of this situation.

We would record our appreciation for the cooperation which has come to our mission program in Alaska through the Juneau Office of Indian Affairs. At the same time we want to assure you that we desire also to cooperate in the program and the government direction.

Sincerely yours,

JBJ:FK

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska

CC The Rev. Bert J. Bingle

120 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, N.Y.
Division of Indian Affairs
of the Presbyterian Church in the
United States of America
Board of National Missions

Gambell

Board of National Missions
of the Presbyterian Church in the
United States of America

156 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

January 17, 1946

VIA AIRMAIL

The Rev. William J. Howell
107 Main Street
Renton, Washington

Dear Bill:

C We are having the Commissioning Service for The Lees to Pt. Barrow today and we are still waiting for some word on transportation. We hope that is on the way to us from you. We are having a Western Union strike in New York City so that some of these things are indefinite.

We have been trying to get a Johnson Outdoor Motor for Elmer Parker at Gambell on St. Lawrence Island. The Company informs us that they are available to us now and have referred us to the Pacific Marine Supply Company, 1223 Western Avenue in Seattle. Mr. Parker wants a KSL model which I believe also is listed as KDL. This is a long shaft model and is certified at 9.8 horse power with basic weight at 71 pounds and according to the price list would be \$220. plus sales tax. May we ask you to interview the Supply Company, ~~order the motor~~, and get us the final price including the freight for delivery at the time of the summer shipment to Gambell. D

Our reason for asking this now is that we have to write to the donor in Idaho and give her the total price so that we can collect from her before the motor is ordered. We have no funds ourselves for this so we must be sure that every cost is included. We would appreciate it if you would take care of this at your earliest convenience. Y

I am expecting to be in Seattle the week-end of February tenth arriving on the ninth and leave on the evening of the twelfth. We are writing to the New Washington Hotel for a reservation and I want to have a conference with you perhaps on Monday morning the eleventh. We have a Sunday School missionary conference in the Auditorium Hotel in Denver February 5th to 8th, and I hope to fly on the ninth arriving in Seattle in the evening. It will be a busy time and you need not think of meeting me but I shall get in touch with you after I arrive so we can have a convenient time for a conference on Monday.

Page #2

The Rev. William J. Howell

January 17, 1946

We are still hoping to have some word on the adjustments of the claims.

Kindest regards to you and Grace!

Cordially yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska

JEJ:FK

Philip M. Campbell
Gambell
Alaska



AIR-MAIL

J. Carl Jackson.
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Avenue New York
N.Y.

SECOND FOLD HERE

THIRD FOLD HERE

FIRST FOLD HERE

Gornbell C. C. L.



FEB 4 1946

Gornbell Alaska

Dear J. Earl Jackman. Jan 27-1946

I was very glad to get a short letter from you, and to know that Edgar Campbell writes to you. Your very welcome of that book makes as you think it a beautiful. Our Teacher is very fine that is Mrs & Mrs Parks. they are a great help to us and Swonge.

Pardon me for my poor writing. So far when I was a baby I did not know about my Parents. And so thank Edgar O. Campbell's kindness now I am a man. And thank that the Lord sent him to Gornbell to help me.
Yours. Philip Mackin
Campbell

ALASKA
PERM. FILE

657-E-7"
York, Neb.-
Jan. 21, 1948

JAN 23 1948

My dear Dr. Jackson:-

I have had a limited cor-
respondence with you,
but doubtless ^{you} do not recall
is I will introduce my self
as the sister of Ben C. Gam-
-ball, the first missionary
to the St. Lawrence Island.
He was sent there in 1894 and
met his - and family - tragic
death in 1898.
I have kept in touch with the
work there thru all these
years. I have corresponded
with the missionary teachers
and ministers and with

7/2 a family. In this family
there is a grand mother.
Her mother, acted as midwife
when my brother's daughter
was born, as there were no
nurses, or doctors on the island
no help of any kind. The girl
was at birth thirteen years of
age and lived with my brother
until they could have for a
hospital in Chicago.
I still write to Nellie as she
remembers my people so
well, through her son and
his wife. Prudence your Miss. School.
You are wondering why
I am writing all this?
I want to rejoice with you
for what missionary
effort has done - a living

Example as is found in
Adelinda Wankon who
is now at Kika, as you know
just three generations from
rank heartiness - and
she is an earnest Christian
girl. The Rev^d Parker and
Mr. Gave speak most highly
of her.

Her grand father perse-
cuted my brother in every
conceivable way, trying to
drive him from the Island
so that he could practice
his witchcraft. He was not
one of the "mild mannered"
Esquimos - but mean almost
beyond belief.

It's just this bit of history - the
reason for my writing.

4/ The Game ball family is
helping Adelaida game
exactly at the present
time and insisting that
she must put in at least
two years at E. J. Jr. College.
She had saved \$200 - to use
for her schooling, and her
plane fare down was
\$16.3 - I hear from her often
and her letters would do
credit to a college grad
uate.

I am very much alarmed
over the inroads the New
Bay Advents are making
on this Island.

Very sincerely yours
Anna G. Quinn

(Mrs. J. B.)

Board of National Missions
of the Presbyterian Church in the
United States of America

156 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, N.Y.

February 27, 1948

ALASKA
PERM. FILE

VIA AIRMAIL

Mr. Don C. Foster
Alaska Native Service
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Foster:

We are writing to you to express our continued concern over the disruption of community and church life among the Eskimos on St. Lawrence Island, both Gambell and Savoonga. For about fifty years our Church has been carrying on work with the people on the Island. There was a period of time in the early thirties when we did not have a worker there, but when personnel and resources permitted, we renewed a service which has included economic, medical, educational, and a spiritual ministry at various times.

In recent years, there has been harmony in our work among the people until the advent of Mr. and Mrs. Dougherty who came as government teachers. Under the guise of being teachers and looking out for the welfare of the people, they occasionally attended our services but became very progressive of promoting the beliefs of the Seventh Day Adventist Church among the Eskimo people. This resulted in a disturbing influence all through their time on the Island, and has resulted in an aggressive attempt of the Seventh Day Adventist people to come to both villages on the Island and attempt to organize the people into a church and build a building. On one occasion their representative was met on the beach and frankly told they were not wanted, but they persisted in remaining and caused additional trouble. We understand that that religious group is still insisting upon building chapels in both communities.

Not only did the work of the Doughertys disrupt the work of the community so far as church was concerned, but Mr. Dougherty's evident mismanagement of the Native Store has left an economic blight upon the whole community and Island. That Store was organized by one of our former missionaries for the benefit of the Eskimos. We understand that when Mr. Dougherty arrived, it had a good cash balance of credit in Juneau but at the time of his departure we are told that the records in Juneau showed a decided deficit. The village has not recovered from the experience yet.

February 27, 1948

The Presbyterian Church is interested in the welfare of the people in Alaska in a harmonious way. It is our desire to get along with those who may have different religious beliefs than we have, but when other groups come into territory which is allocated to us under the Home Missions Council comity arrangement and aggressively disrupt the community and church life of the people, we feel that a strong protest is in order. We know that government agencies do not have the legal right to inquire into the religious beliefs of any one whom they may employ in school or government service, but we do feel these people should not receive salaries as government employees and then turn out to be missionaries for particular branches of religious beliefs while being supported by government funds. The situation on St. Lawrence Island is strong evidence of what has occurred in other places.

We write this to you because we know it is your desire to have all of our communities in Alaska progress in peace and harmony. We are glad to cooperate with you to that end.

Sincerely yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
jej;fk Unit of Work in Alaska

Dictated by Dr. Jackman
but signed in his absence.

Board of National Missions
of the Presbyterian Church in the
United States of America

156 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

April 14, 1948

Samuel
**ALASKA
PERM. FILE**
Mrs. J. B. Butler
651 East 7th
York, Nebraska

Dear Mrs. Butler:

It has taken me a long time to answer your letter of January 21st because I was away from the office so long that the correspondence piled up and it is just now getting cleared. I wish your letter had been written ten days or two weeks sooner, because I was in York, Nebraska January 24th to visit Mrs. Samuel Lee (who was Byrdine Lee) the wife of our missionary at Barrow. Had I been aware of this connection of yours with Gambell, I would certainly have called upon you.

We are grateful to you for this bit of history which you have given us in connection with your brother. It has not yet been my privilege to visit Gambell, but in November three years ago I did meet Patrick Womkon and have a good colored transparency of him. The first week of February in Sitka, I had a visit with Adelinda and found her to be a delightful girl. She told me she expected to remain the two years at the School.

You will be interested to know that Adelinda has been suggested as one of the young people of the Territory to participate in a Youth Caravan in working with the young people of the various communities in southeastern Alaska for a period of six weeks this summer. We have recommended that she be one of the group. I expect to see her again in June.

Not only is the story of Adelinda one of great romance as to the result of Missions, but the fact that the family of the missionary whom her family persecuted so much is helping to educate her is a great testimony of the power of the Gospel in many lives.

So far as the Seventh Day Adventist situation is concerned on St. Lawrence Island, a very limited number of families have followed them. We have made a protest to the Juneau office of the Alaska Native Service against their methods in disrupting the village life. The Juneau office is sympathetic with our point of view, but, of course, are prevented legally from doing very much about it.

We appreciate your continued interest in this work and your desire to follow it through in a material way.

Cordially yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska
JEJ:FK

Dictated by Dr. Jackman but signed in his absence.

Gambell St Lawrence Id
Popular meeting - National Mission
Over Side General Assembly Seattle May 1948

ALASKA

TERM. FILE

suggest for
Dr. Milner
to introduce
Dr. Jackman

During the coming year our mission work in Alaska will be a part of the missions' study of the whole Church. During the years of our service in that Territory, there have been many miracles of grace. In this General Assembly, we have an Eskimo in whose life we find many of the great evidences of the Power of the Gospel. We are asking Dr. Jackman to present her with a brief statement:

used by
Dr. Jackman
to introduce
Adelinda
Womkon.

About 50 years ago a missionary and his wife went to work among the Eskimos on St. Lawrence Island at the mouth of Bering Strait between Alaska and Siberia. Many people responded to their call to follow Christ. Some who were filled with superstition fought the missionaries. One of those men persecuted the missionaries almost unto death. He died without coming to Christ. His son accepted Christ as his Saviour and is now an elder in their church in the village which has been renamed Gambell in honor of the missionary. The granddaughter of the persecutor and the daughter of the elder has been an active worker in the church. She is now a student in Sheldon Jackson Junior College and a member of the choir which you have heard. The family of the missionary are making it possible for her to be in school. The family of the persecutor are now followers of Christ. The family of the ones persecuted are paying for the Christian education of one of them. Here is the miracle of the Grace of Christ in the human heart. It is a pleasure to present to you Adelinda Womkon from Gambell, Alaska. Adelinda would you say in a word what the Gospel has meant to your people and to you?

June 7, 1948
Dr. J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska

JEJ:FK

Gambell
Board of National Missions
of the Presbyterian Church in the
United States of America

156 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

October 14, 1948

Miss Ann Bannan
732 So. Clay Street
Green Bay, Wisconsin

Dear Miss Bannan:

In a recent letter received from the Rev. Elmer Parker he raises a question about some furniture at Gambell and Dr. Jackman suggested that we write to you about it. The following is quoted from Mr. Parker's letter of September 9th received in the office on the 20th.:

"Last Monday night at the church officer's meeting there were some things came up they wished me to write to you about: A few days before Mr. Reed left he brought over a sort of letter to the teacher following Mr. Daugherty. This, of course, was Mr. Reed. He said he had just found it in the files. It read: 'The missionaries had no bed so we loaned them a double bed from the teacher's home.' I have asked the Elders about it and they do not remember of getting a bed from Daugherty for Miss Bannan or Percy. I am writing Miss Bannan and Percy about it."

You may already have heard from Mr. Parker about this, but we shall be interested in the outcome too, and shall appreciate any information you can send.

Among other things Mr. Parker reports that Adelinda Womkon is continuing her work another year in Sheldon Jackson Jr. College. She remained in Sitka and has been working during the summer. Mr. Y gave Mr. Parker a fine report of her. They are very happy to announce another student from Gambell has been accepted in S.J.J.S. for this year. Mathilda Echak left the Island on August 21st on the Cutter Bittersweet to Nome, then on to Fairbanks, Juneau, and Sitka via plane and boat. She expressed the desire to become a nurse, and the Parkers hope she can qualify for training. A nurse on the Island is needed more than anything else they can think of.

Adelinda came down to the General Assembly in Seattle last May with members of the School choir and was presented to the assembly as a personal illustration of what the Gospel in Alaska has meant to her family over the years. Mrs. J.B. Butler of York, Neb. had written to us telling us something about the story of her brother, Vene C. Gambell, the first missionary to St. Lawrence Island in 1894. She related the influence of the missionaries on the people of Gambell, and especially on the Womkon family inasmuch as Adelinda's ancestors persecuted the first missionary unto death. It is a great story and proved a real challenge to the General

October 14, 1948

Assembly when Adelinda was asked to say a word about what the Gospel has meant to her people and to her. We thought you would be interested in this bit of news, because you had a real share in the development in Gambell and the influence of the Gospel on the people's lives.

We trust you are quite well and were able to get some rest and relaxation over the summer.

Dr. Jackman has been away for several weeks on an extended field trip and hopes to be back to the office on Monday. These are busy days for our secretaries as they go about promoting the 1949 budget, and trying to raise funds for the advancement of our great work.

Sincerely yours,

Frieda Koerner, Secretary to
J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska

FK

NOV 3 1948

131 So. Webster
Green Bay, Wis.
October 29, 1948

ALASKA
P.M. FILE

Miss Frieda Koerner
156 Fifth Avenue
New York 10, N. Y.

1/31/49 Copy sent

Mr. Parker at Gambell

Dear Miss Koerner:

I have a letter from Mrs. Smith, who, with her husband, had taught four years at Gambell before I went over, Sept. 29, 1934. They taught my first two years there also.

"Leighton doesn't remember finding your bed and neither do I. If that bed you used upstairs had been in the Gov't inventory it would have been accounted for long before this - with inventories taken every spring. I have a hunch it was a 'stray' and not in any inventory - There were a number of things like that, like some of our own things we left behind, etc. and some old beds had been dropped from the inventory too, I recall."

One teacher - Mr. Dupertuis, of Nome, I think, gave away a lot of the things in the Mission house when he finished teaching at Gambell and left. James Abnigeau told me he had a large drop leaf table which that man

gave him - others got a food grinder -
etc. etc. Personally, I am very certain
we owe the Government nothing. I think
that metal bed I had up in the guest
room must have been left there years
before I went over. It was old and well worn.
The Board sent me a good mattress
for it in 1940. Mr. Daugherty did lend
me a spring that they were not using
and that was all.

Thank you for the literature which
comes from "156" at odd times. I always
enjoy it all. I think the last booklet on
Barman is very interesting and a fine
idea.

Best of good wishes -

Ann Barman

P.S. -

1/3/1947
Dear Mr. Jackman:

I'm enclosing a copy of a letter I wrote to the Daugherty about the herd & stove etc.

When I was transferred in Sept, 1926 to Wainwright, from Barrow. the Supt. of schools came to the teachers - Mr. & Mrs. Archie Pagne - and asked where I was staying. The Board had asked me to go to Wainwright that 4th year and do whatever I could to help the Eskimos and whites and report every thing. The teachers there had allowed me to settle in two small rooms upstairs in the school bldg. That Supt. came upstairs when I was and said "you can't stay here. It's against the rules. You'll have to go some place else." I wrote a note to Dr. Newhall at Barrow asking what I should do. A friend on the ship took

my letter to the hospital as soon as he got
home and so Dr. Newhall was prepared when the
Supt. Supt. arrived and told Dr. N- he'd have
to recall me or send me some where else. Dr.
asked very innocently - "Has the Bureau of
Education built a new school house ^{this year} at
Gambell?" Very hostilely the Supt said -
"Oh, that missionary may stay at the
Paynes. Its all right." and he hostilely
"lit out" to call elsewhere. When he
returned to Wain might a day or so
later, he tried to be very nice. and
assured me I was welcome to stay there.

Sincerely -

Ann Bannan

1/31/49 off set type 10431 So. Webster
at Gambell Green Bay, Wis.
copy
Nov. 15, 1948

Dear Folks:

NOV 18 1948

I haven't had much luck in getting an answer to either letter I've written to Mr. & Mrs. F. D. but I still am able to try again.

Some weeks ago I received a letter from the Board, at 156 Fifth Ave, N.Y. City stating the present teachers at Gambell had shown the Parkers a memo F. D. left regarding a bed he (F. D.) had loaned me.

As I had been at Gambell 4 years before you folks arrived, I decided the Smiths must have left that memo first. So I wrote to them and neither one had any recollection of lending me a bed. The old iron bed stood nos up stairs in the guest room when I got there Sept. 29, 1934. The Board sent in a cot bed for the living room, when I went in because I had the same arrangement at the Wales Mission house.

You did let me take an extra bed spring. F. D. & I were in the

Govt. ware house and I mentioned. I'd like a bed spring, as the one on the bed up stairs wasn't comfortable. He offered me the extra one in the ware house and it was brought over. I left it on the bed. I'd forgotten it. I had ordered a new mattress, which the Board sent in.

In all the years the Bureau of Education used that mission bldg., for school, not one cent of rent had ever been paid. Lumber was sent in to replace what our teacher had torn out up stairs from the two large rooms and the small room up there where the stairs were, to ~~build~~ because his cool was left down the coast. Mr. Smith wanted to build a work shop for the native men, so he used that lumber and I had the pleasure of getting those three rooms sealed up my first summer there. I had a good sized cool shed torn ~~down~~ and used that lumber up stairs.

I loaned a small cool heater to Irving when he had a room in the nurse's home, because he was so very cold and uncomfortable in his room. What has become of that heater?

What has become of that heater? I had used it my first winter - 1934-35 at Gornbell. It cost \$45 I think.

Later I moved to the quarters you knew and had an oil heater.

Do you remember when Mr. Claude M. Hirst called Nov. 10, 1937 and F. D. mentioned the two oil heaters that belonged to the Govt. which were being used in the two school rooms? F. D. asked what to do with them when the new school would be built. He replied, "As far as I'm concerned they may stay here." Mr. Parker^{has} asked about the one oil ^{large} heater there.

Sincerely -

Ann Bannon

Copy.

College Floor -
Nov. 26, 1948

ALASKA
PERM. FILE

DEC 6 1948

Dear Miss Bannan.

This is first letter we've had from you and I'm in here so thought I'd write a note. I'm swamped with work. We got here Sept. 16. Then I took a week in the hospital - bought house - got furniture - too much. We have been in 3 houses here so far - work too heavy.

Now about the bed. That is news to me. We did loan a spring which was a good thing for bath - Spring was in the damp warehouse and your mattress too wide for your spring. The spring was returned. I wrote no memo of it either, that I can remember. Why should I. If you'd like I'll write this also to the teacher. There is a mistake somewhere Smitho nor Hinckley didn't write the memo, or I'd have seen it in the files as we went thru them all. Also just before we left Mrs. Pather went thru our files and refiled every thing so - - - got my doubts.?? "

Frank Doughterty

Board of National Missions
of the Presbyterian Church in the
United States of America

156 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

February 7, 1949

ALASKA
PERM. FILE

Dr. Harold H. Baldwin
415-416 Cutler Building
Rochester 4, New York

Dear Dr. Baldwin:

Your letter of January 27th has been received in Dr. Jackman's absence on an extended field trip. He attended a Sunday School missionaries' conference in Albuquerque last week, and tomorrow night arrives in Billings, Montana for another such meeting.

When writing him last week, mentioned the question which you asked, namely, "How do they bury their dead at Barrow?" In a letter received this morning, Dr. Jackman suggested that we relay this information to you. The Barrow people put their dead in boxes made of rough lumber and bury them in the cemetery. At Gambell they put bodies in boxes, haul them on dog sled to the top of the nearby mountain, and leave box, sled, and body on top of the ground, fastening the sled so animals cannot move it.

You certainly have been busy speaking on Alaska, and we are thrilled to learn that the number of those hearing about our missionary program in the Territory is increasing throughout our churches. Dr. Kirkland of Haddonfield, N.J. and Dr. Kemper of Cincinnati report similar experiences.

Sincerely yours,

Frieda Koerner, Secretary to
J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Department of Work in Alaska

FK

all
Campbell to JHC

January 24, 1956

Mr. Clarence Irrigoo
Campbell
Alaska

Dear Clarence:

Thank you for your letter of October 31 containing your inquiry about qualifications and preparation for service with our church among the Eskimo people of Alaska. We recognize and appreciate the spiritual stirring within you and feel that you ought to respond to it by bearing your Christian witness among your own people in Campbell now, and inquiring about the possibility of service elsewhere which might include some secular occupation for the support of your family and your activity in the program of the local church or being a part of the employed group who carry on the total program of National Missions in Alaska.

There is a need for assistance in the program for Eskimos both in Fairbanks and Barrow. At the present time Mr. Parker is giving that leadership in Fairbanks and Samuel Simonsis, a resident of Barrow, is helping in our program there. We have no present need of further leadership on the staff but always need real Christians to be a part of the program in every church.

We have tried to face the question of employed workers from the Eskimos to be used among the Eskimo people in our work. As you know in Campbell, it is difficult for one who has grown up in his own community to take the spiritual leadership of the local congregation and to get people to have confidence in that leadership. We have found also in some places that the native people will not receive leadership from one of their own from a different village. We have not yet been able to overcome this situation. If and when we do overcome it, we then must realize that these people should have special training to give them guidance and experience in the type of program which should be conducted in each local place. I shall ask that this question be considered in the meeting of Yukon Presbytery, the week following Easter, as it meets in Anchorage.

Meanwhile if you are looking for a job, which is permanent, in secular employment, we might try to make a contact for you. Just now work is slow in the Anchorage - Fairbanks area, but it might be possible to find

Mr. Clarence Irrigoo

-2-

January 24, 1956

something in the early summer which could give you employment over next winter. There are a number of Eskimos who are working for the Alaska Railway on a year-round basis. The Rev. R. J. Bingle, whom you may know from one or two visits to Campbell is our worker along the Railway. His address is in College, Alaska.

Best wishes to you and all your family.

J. Earl Jackman
Sincerely yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Department of Work in Alaska

JEM:yw
cc: Rev. Lowell Campbell
Dr. Armstrong
Rev. Frank Wallap

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

7706 Twenty-fifth Avenue Northwest

SEATTLE 7, WASHINGTON

JUL 19 1957

return answer to S.K.

A. Taylor Dunlap Pastor
Miss Phyllis Johnson Director of Christian Education
Mrs. Helen V. Senter Office Secretary
Kenneth Gove Custodian

July 17, 1957.

Dear Dr. Jackman,

We had a delightful four day visit with the Arthur French couple in our home. When we learned that the Gambell manse had no piano, and that both the French's played, we decided that we better take out some insurance against the dreaded "cabin fever" and get them a piano in time to catch the North Star freight shipment.

We have purchased a six months old Baldwin Acrospnic upright piano which was repossessed last week from a piano teacher who became ill and had to give up teaching. We felt that it would be a mistake to send an old beat up second hand piano to Gambell, especially when the ones who were to play it were real musicians.

The piano is boxed and will be delivered to the dock tomorrow according to schedule Warne Clark gave us. Now the reason for this letter is: We are paying for the piano, \$495.00. (It cost \$967.00 retail, new.) Do you wish to include it as part of the freight being sent to the Gambell manse, or do you wish to bill Northminster for the freight? We shall be glad to cooperate either way, but I thought that you might have it in the budget for freight if we purchased it.

many thanks. we pay freight

I believe that you have recruited a wonderful couple for that work and we intend to do all we can to support them. The piano, of course will be a gift to the Gambell Manse and not to the persons assigned there as a personal gift. However, we do plan to send them personal gifts parcel post from time to time.

Sincerely yours,

A. Taylor Dunlap

A. Taylor Dunlap, Pastor



July 24, 1937

The Rev. L. Taylor Under
Northminster Presbyterian Church
1706 - 25th Avenue, Northwest
Seattle 7, Washington

Dear Taylor:

Thanks for the good news which was contained in your letter of July 17th about the purchase of a piano for the French's in the Semholl name. We appreciate your understanding and the fact that if we are to pay the freight to send a piano so far away, it ought to be a fairly good instrument. This should last many years and will be a comfort to the French's and their successors. It now becomes possible for us to have this new piano in the nurse and the one which is already there, in the church, so that we will not have to move instruments from one place to another.

As far as the freight is concerned, let us leave it this way. If you secure enough money from your congregation to purchase the piano and pay the freight, we will be happy to have you do it. However, if you secure only enough funds to buy the piano, we will arrange in some way to pay the freight. We understand from Mr. French that you are in contact with Harne Clark on this and would authorize Harne Clark to handle it on the above suggestion.

Many thanks for your enthusiastic support of the French's, and this provision for their new name. We trust that you and your congregation will receive a real blessing from this activity.

Sincerely,

J. Earl Jackson

JEJ:ll

Cc: Mr. Harne Clark, 13425 - 25th Avenue Northwest, Seattle 37, Washington
The Rev. Arthur French, Semholl, Alaska



BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS

OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

156 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 10, N.Y. ALGONQUIN 5-5000

July 24, 1957

The Rev. and Mrs. Arthur French
Cambell, Alaska

Dear Art and Carolyn:

Welcome to Cambell and to your new missionary field. We have been following the progress of your trip and your activities from your letters and from others and rejoice in the great experiences which you have had en route. Last Sunday morning I had the privilege of occupying the pulpit of the Woodhaven Presbyterian Church of Long Island and mentioned to the congregation that that was your first Sunday morning service with the congregation in Cambell.

We are delighted that Taylor Dunlap has made arrangements with their congregation to supply a good piano for the manse. We know this will mean much to both of you in your work.

We have had a real disappointment in the matter of an electric plant for you. We have been carrying on negotiations with the Jacobs Wind Electric Company, formerly of Minnesota, now of Fort Myers, Florida, in securing a wind generator with tower which would give ample capacity for the manse and normal services of the church. We wrote them several months ago, but did not hear from them. Recently we picked up the contact and pressed it. We discovered that they have discontinued the manufacture of the plants but promised to get us a late model 110 AC volt plant from the northwest which would be available to us at about one-half the cost. When the time began to get short we telephoned Mr. Jacobs and he promised to check with the company. He has now notified us just a week before the closing date of the shipments that the plant which they have been trying to secure has been sold to someone else and the company had not notified them. It looks now as though we would not be able to ship a plant to you until next spring. We understand the present plant is still in operation, but may not have as large capacity as would be needed for the larger church building. Special attention will have to be given this on the field to make the plant last as long as possible.

Please remember us to the officers and people of the Cambell congregation. Recently I was showing pictures which included some of our visit there last July which brought the people back to our thoughts in a very forcible way. We often think of them and hope now that they have such a fine young couple on the field, the work will pick up again and go forward. You ought to give some thought to the possibility of having Bert Eutan come over for that part of the Evangelistic Mission. Funds are available for his transportation. Blessings on you in your new work.

Sincerely,

J. Earl Jackman

JEW:lt

Cc: The Rev. Brian Cleworth

(dictated by Dr. Jackman)



BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS

OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

156 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 10, N.Y. ALGONQUIN 5-5000

July 30, 1957

The Rev. and Mrs. Arthur E. French
Casbell, Alaska

Dear Art and Carolyn:

Sorry to hear that you have bumped into so much difficulty upon your arrival in Casbell. The situation regarding the Seventh Day Adventist group is most distressing. I hope the people of Casbell do not have short memories regarding them, because when Mr. and Mrs. Youberty were the school teachers there, he issued extra free shares to every Eskimo who had a share in the native store and paid eight per cent on each share which caused the store to go bankrupt. Some of the elders may remember these things and can help to warn the people. We feel that you ought to keep pressing on this matter so that the elders and the members of the Council will have it in hand and not allow any false statements to go to Home or Junco regarding local actions. We are enclosing a copy of a letter to Mr. Elsen about it. If the Council remains insistent, the Junco office can only accept the action of the Council and keep its skirts clear from becoming involved in a question of religion.

Sorry to hear that your food did not arrive. We do not know the answer to this one, but I hope Clark will pick it up.

We are interested in the deactivation of the Army Base at Casbell and the abundant supply of materials which might be available to you. I am wondering if you have the assurance of getting these and whether the annual oil order can be stopped from Seattle to save that expense.

We have the information from Brian, that Mary Rowley would be withdrawn from St. Lawrence Island and there would be no replacement this coming winter. We were not surprised at the suggestion that Carolyn be appointed the official nurse. Our policy is to discourage the wife from taking a regular, full-time responsibility for service, but we do temper this policy in light of emergencies. If she is to perform this service, it is better that she have official recognition and be under official appointment. We hope some arrangement can be made wherein this could be on a part-time

basis, but if full-time is necessary, then we would agree to it on an emergency basis.

We are delighted to know that you have a light plant available to you inasmuch as we were not able to get the Jacobs' Wind Charger on this boat. There may be something providential in this whole arrangement which we have not understood, but which is now coming to light.

Keep us informed about developments. We have had excellent reports about your visits en route, and particularly in the Anchorage area. We pray for God's guidance to both of you as you enter your ministry there in the midst of delicate relations. As far as possible in all relationships over the Seventh Day Adventist group and similar situations, present them to your session and to the Village Council for action. You can spark the movement and guide the actions, but be sure that whatever is done has the responsibility of the people behind it.

Our best regards to both of you and to all of your officers and people.

Sincerely,

J. Earl Jackson

JJJ:lt

Cc: The Revs. Cloworth and Walling



BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS

OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

156 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 10, N.Y.

ALGONQUIN 5-5000

July 30, 1957

Mr. William Olsen
Alaska Area Director
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Olsen:

Information has reached us from several sources in Alaska that the Seventh Day Adventists have sent a couple to the village of Gambell on St. Lawrence Island to further their particular beliefs among the people there, and that a boat has brought in a load of lumber to build a building for their work. Information from Gambell states that the Seventh Day Adventists have sent word to your representative in Nome that the Village Council of Gambell has requested them to build this church building. Information also from Gambell indicates that the Village Council has not met for a number of weeks and could not possibly have made this request.

In previous occasions the Council and the people of Gambell have asked the Seventh Day Adventist group not to come into their community and on one occasion have taken action against their building a church there. About ten years ago there was a Seventh Day Adventist couple as the school teachers in Gambell. They did carry on the work of the school, but they were also unofficial missionaries of the Seventh Day Adventist group. For some reason, then unknown, the financial affairs of the native store went bad and it was not until after these school teachers had gone that it was discovered that their practices had partially caused the finances of the store to go in the red. The situation became so bad that Don Foster had to ask for their recall and transfer. To revive the influence of this group and push it in that village now, is simply to cause further trouble for the Bureau of Indian Affairs and for the Presbyterian Church, not to speak of the divisiveness that will be developed within the village itself.

In free America one hesitates to raise his voice against the entrance of any religious group into a village, but in this particular instance we want to voice a strong protest against any permission given to them by the Alaska Office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs to build a church

Mr. William Olsen

- 2 -

July 30, 1937

building in the Village of Gambell. It is our belief, in light of past experience and actions, that the Village Council will take an official action against such a procedure. The Area Officer of the Bureau needs only to act upon the decision of the Council as final and avoid becoming involved in the question of religion.

Sincerely yours,

J. Earl Jackson, Secretary
Department of Work in Alaska

JEB:lt

Cc: The Rev. Brian M. Cloworth, Box 2539, Juneau, Alaska
The Rev. Arthur E. French, Gambell, Alaska

JUL 21 1958

for your file

MISSION MEMOS
JULY 1958

GAMBELL-ST. LAWRENCE ISLAND-ALASKA

St. Lawrence Island is part of the State of Alaska. It is located about 120 miles west of Nome and 40 miles east of the nearest Siberian peninsula. There are two villages on the Island, Gambell and Savoonga. Gambell is on the extreme northwest corner of the Island, while Savoonga is midway down the north shore. Both villages are populated by Eskimos-345 in Gambell and 300 in Savoonga. Some of the Eskimos originally came from Siberia, but only a few came over in the past half century. Most of the people can speak English and carry on a conversation.

The Presbyterian Church has been on the Island since 1892. That was when the old mission building was built. The missionary service has been sporadic during the years with a long period from 1912 to 1932 when there were few if any missionaries serving here. The early workers were teachers, doctors, and ministers rolled into one. The church was organized in 1940 and has been self-governing, though not self-supporting since. In recent years the people have learned to give a share of their earnings to help support the church program. There are now 170 church members and the children's Sunday School enrollment is in the 80's. There is a choir, prayer groups, women's group, Boy Scouts, and regular mid-week services.

Highlights in the History of St. Lawrence Island:

- 1892 Dr. Sheldon Jackson built the first mission which was the first frame building in Gambell. This is still standing, and is in use by the Frenches.
- 1894 V.C. Gambell became the first permanent contact with the mainland. He was a missionary teacher who was in Gambell for four years before he and his family went out on furlough. While returning from their furlough, the Gambells were all drowned at sea. When the people of the village discovered this, they renamed the village Gambell, in memory of V.C. Gambell.
- 1900 The reindeer was introduced to the Island by Sheldon Jackson, to help the economy of the people. The reindeer multiplied so well, that by 1948 there were 10,000 or more. This was too many for the Island to sustain, and so all but a hundred died. They are no longer herded.
- 1901-1910 Dr. O.E. Campbell, M.D. and Mrs. Campbell built the living room and shed, and used the quarters for a hospital. Dr. Campbell preached, did operations, and started the first store. He kept a journal, which is not accounted for now. Many Eskimos were interested in what Dr. Campbell had to say, but they kept

reverting back to their old ways. The Campbells practically ran an orphanage while they were here.

1917 Savoonga was founded as a reindeer herd camp.

1940 Churches were fully organized in Gambell and Savoonga.

1950 Church building built in Savoonga.

1956 New church building built in Gambell.

Missionaries to St. Lawrence Island:

1894-1898 Rev. and Mrs. V.C. Gambell

1901-1910 Dr. and Mrs. O.E. Campbell

1935-1942 Miss Ann Bannon

Gambell:

1943-1944 Rev. and Mrs. Percy Epalook

1944-1950 Rev. and Mrs. Elmer G. Parker

1952-1957 Rev. and Mrs. Lowell M. Campbell

1957- Rev. and Mrs. Arthur E. French

Savoonga:

1942-1946 Miss Anna Martin

1946-1954 Miss Alice Green

1954-1958 Miss Louise Avery

The Eskimo:

The Eskimo people are very friendly people with a good sense of humor. They are very eager to please if they understand what it is one wants them to do. More and more, the people of Gambell are rapidly adopting our culture. They buy much of their food from the native store, which contains the same type food as grocery stores in any of the other states. In addition, they eat their native meats, such as walrus, seal and whale when available, and birds and greens in the summer time.

The young people dress and wear their hair in the same style as any other teenagers. Even the Elvis Presley manner has reached here in hair style, rock and roll dancing, and love for his singing.

The older women wear handmade snow-shirt parkas. These are hooded, one piece and full length to below the knee. They are lined with rabbit skins or heavy cloth imported from other states.

The men wear working clothes for the most part. For hunting, they still wear their traditional seal skin boots and pants, and snow-shirt parkas (skin covered with plain heavy muslin).

The change of culture is making a time of real adjustment. Many want to find jobs on the mainland where they will have steady income, medical facilities near at hand, and better educational opportunities.

Carolyn French says:

"I am the full time Public Health Nurse, the only medical representative on the island, which means I am responsible for the medical work in both Gambell and Savoonga. In addition to treating the acute illnesses, I carry on a preventative medical program including health education, immunizations, and school health.

In both Gambell and Savoonga, I have trained two native girls to help me with some of the medical work so that they are able to take care of many of the treatments in my absence from the village.

The main medical problems are upper respiratory illnesses, particularly draining ears. Tuberculosis used to be the major hazard here, but as a result of the introduction of chemotherapy and the annual X-ray survey, the problem has decreased remarkably.

The regional doctor comes to the island about once a year, and a team of Arctic Health Research personnel come about twice a year to further study the health problems.

I also take charge of the Women's work in the church. The women's organization is called "Kevghet Christum" which means "Messengers for Christ". The women meet on the second Saturday afternoon of each month. Four leaders give the lesson in Eskimo (lesson outline prepared by Carolyn), and the officers lead the business meeting. An offering is received each month. If the women do not have cash, they give handwork such as skin sewings, or ivory jewelry. They pledge to On-going work and try also to give extra money to Opportunity projects. In the past couple of years, they have been able to give to Opportunity projects in addition to having completed their pledge. After the lesson and business meeting, the leaders for the month serve refreshments which they have prepared, and then the women play games for about a half hour. The average attendance at these meetings is 25, which is about one-half of the women of the village.

The week previous to the monthly meeting, I meet and discuss plans with the officers: President, Vice-President (who is also World Service Chairman and Program Chairman), Secretary-treasurer, and Prayer Chairman (who is also fellowship chairman).

On the fourth Saturday of each month the women have sewing group. They work on needed items such as curtains for the church, and projects to help other mission stations.

Every week on Monday afternoons, from October through June, the women meet for Bible study, songs, and prayer. This year, they are studying Luke, with the study guide, "Meet Dr. Luke". They are very earnest in their search for knowledge and understanding. The inspiration and added insight one receives from working with a group like this cannot adequately be expressed in words.

After Prayer Meeting on Wednesday nights each week, the women meet to pray for others. The women mention whom they desire to pray for, and then they say prayers together, aloud softly, closing with the Lord's Prayer."

Arthur French says:

"The ministerial duties here are like those in any small, rural church in many ways, though we do have other things peculiar to our situation. A typical Sunday Schedule is as follows:

- 10:00 A.M. Prayer Group
- 11:00 A.M. Children's Sunday School
- 1:00 P.M. Worship Service
- 2:00 P.M. Choir Practice
- 4:00 P.M. Adult Sunday School
- 5:00 P.M. Fellowship Hour
- 7:00 P.M. Senior Sunday School

The worship service is conducted in English right through the Benediction. There is a general dismissal following which the lesson and message are interpreted in Eskimo for those remaining.

The Sunday School classes are taught in Eskimo. Our Faith and Life Curriculum is used for the children, while the adults use the International Sunday School Lesson Series. During the Fellowship Hour, we show religious movies, or look at slides that the people here have taken. They are avid camera fans. I direct the choir, and Carolyn is the accompanist.

There are monthly meetings of the Elders, Deacons and Trustees. We are finishing up the first year Church Officer Training Course, with all the officers and teachers. Every week, I have study sessions with all the Sunday School teachers, as they make preparation for teaching the classes. On Wednesdays, there is Prayer Meeting, with Men's and Women's prayer groups following.

Right now, we are in the midst of a building program, as we try to finish the sanctuary and Sunday School rooms. Also, we are trying to get the new quarters ready for us to move into.

I am the moderator of the Congregation in Savgong, so this necessitates quarterly visits. At the present time, while there is no missionary stationed there, I am making monthly trips. While I am there, I hold communion, baptisms, and marriages if there are any. Then I have meetings with all the officers. These trips to Savgong are by dogteam in the winter, and walrus-skin boat in the summer.

There is a little language barrier. Because I do not speak Eskimo, I feel that I have a very much ministry to the old people. Then, too, something is always lost in translation.

We hope these brief notes give hints as to our life and work here on St. Lawrence Island.

Art and Carolyn French

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Spencer *Gambell*

NOV 20 1958

REV. ARTHUR E. FRENCH
PRESBYTERIAN MISSION
St. Lawrence Island
Gambell, Alaska

November 15, 1958

Dear Brian,

We were very disappointed to learn that you and Dr. Steward could not make it out this way. Perhaps you will be able to make up for it in January. I am planning to go over to Savoonga early in January for Annual Congregational Meeting. This would be a good time for you to go, too. What I would like to suggest is that You try and plan to come out for two weeks and give us a short Preaching mission as Bert did last year. I am very selfish in this respect because ever since Wasilla and Palmer days I have always said that I had never heard anyone who was such a consistently good preacher as you are. I am sure that I need more good preaching to than anyone here, so it would be a real thrill if you could do this. Our teachers both here and in Savoonga would like it, too, I am sure. Secondly, the folks over in Savoonga need a good boost and your just the person who could do it. I am sure they were very disappointed that you could not have stayed longer two years ago. Winter has come earlier this year which means better trails earlier in the season, so I am sure that by January we ought to be able to get over there without too much difficulty. I will be able to supply you with most everything you will need for a dog team trip.

I have just got a letter off to Mrs. Lillian Cleworth about the 49th State greetings. In the pile up of our three week mail supply last week your letter got lost, and so I was a little confused about the box. However, I passed the things out and some of our kids wrote to the kids who had addresses listed on their cards. Yesterday when I found your letter it cleared everything up, so I jotted a note to Mrs. Cleworth.

The move into the new house has been quite strenuous on us both, so that now we are down with heavy colds. However, I was very glad that we moved when we did because this week we have had some unseasonably early storms which have really piled the snow up. I would hate to think of doing all that moving - by dog sled - over these present drifts. We even brought the piano over on a sled and I didn't believe it was possible. These folks can do mosy anything when they want to.

As ever,

Art

Arthur E. French